

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant request entry of this preliminary amendment prior to examination of present applicaiton. Claims 27-52 are pending in the application. Claims 1-26 are canceled without prejudice. New claims 27-52 are added.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 337-6742 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

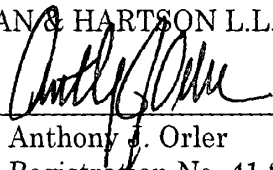
If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,

HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: September 8, 2003

By: _____


Anthony J. Orler

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